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General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Agenda item 52 (b)

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space: joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

1. The sub-item entitled "Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability", under the item entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space", was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 71/90 of 6 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First and Fourth Committees.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. At its 11th meeting, on 12 October, the Committee held a joint meeting with the Fourth Committee to consider the agenda item. The Committee heard a keynote address by the Director and Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs. As part of the panel discussion, presentations were made by the Senior Director of Policy at the Satellite Industry Association, a senior scientist with the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Vice-President of Airbus Defence and Space and a programme officer with Project Ploughshares, who also responded to comments and questions from the floor.

5. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

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[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

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Seventy-second session
Agenda item 90

Reduction of military budgets

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Reduction of military budgets:

"(a) Reduction of military budgets;

"(b) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures"

was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, 68/23 of 5 December 2013 and 70/21 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures (A/72/328);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to Review the Operation and Further Development of the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures (A/72/293).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.24

5. On 11 October, the representative of Romania, on behalf of Albania, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures" (A/C.1/72/L.24). Subsequently, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Monaco, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.24 without a vote (see para. 8).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998, 54/43 of 1 December 1999, 56/14 of 29 November 2001, 58/28 of 8 December 2003, 60/44 of 8 December 2005, 62/13 of 5 December 2007, 64/22 of 2 December 2009, 66/20 of 2 December 2011, 68/23 of 5 December 2013 and 70/21 of 7 December 2015 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Recalling also its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, in which the General Assembly called upon all Member States to participate in the system, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, in which the Assembly endorsed the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and invited Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that, since then, national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographical regions,

Convinced that the improvement of international relations forms a sound basis for promoting further openness and transparency in all military matters,

Convinced also that transparency in military matters is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States worldwide and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

Noting the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,

Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be enhanced by a broader participation of Member States,

Noting that a periodic review of the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures could facilitate its further development and maintain its continued relevance and operation, and recalling that, in its resolution 66/20, the General Assembly recommended the establishment of a process for periodic reviews,

Recalling, in that regard, the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information

on military matters, including, in particular, on how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,[1]

Recalling also the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Operation and Further Development of the United Nations Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures on further ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, on how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,[2]

Welcoming the work of the Secretariat on migrating data submitted on military expenditures to its new, interactive web platform, which includes an online reporting feature, thus increasing user-friendliness and facilitating the submission of reports,[3] in accordance with resolution 66/20,

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the Report on Military Expenditures under the current political and economic circumstances,

Recalling that, in its resolution 66/20, the General Assembly recommended that, for the purpose of reporting by Member States of their national military expenditures in the framework of the Report on Military Expenditures, "military expenditures" be commonly understood to refer to all financial resources that a State spends on the uses and functions of its military forces and information on military expenditures represents an actual outlay in current prices and domestic currency,

Mindful of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, including its Article 26,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to Review the Operation and Further Development of the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures;[4]

2. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving the broadest possible participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 30 April annually, with a report on their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, one of the online reporting forms, including, if appropriate, a nil report or the "single figure" report on military expenditures or any other format developed in the context of similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations;

3. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

4. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so to supplement their reports, on a voluntary basis, with explanatory remarks regarding submitted data to explain or clarify the figures provided in the reporting forms, such as the total military expenditures as a share of gross domestic product, major changes from previous

[1] A/54/298.
[2] A/66/89 and A/66/89/Corr.1, A/66/89/Corr.2 and A/66/89/Corr.3.
[3] Available from www.un-arm.org/Milex/home.aspx.
[4] A/72/293.

reports and any additional information reflecting their defence policy, military strategies and doctrines;

5. *Invites* Member States to provide, preferably with their annual report, information on their national points of contact;

6. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarities among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

7. *Takes note* of the annual reports of the Secretary-General;[5]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available resources:

(a) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of their report on military expenditures;

(b) To circulate annually a note verbale to Member States detailing which reports on military expenditures were submitted and are available online;

(c) To circulate to Member States the questionnaire contained in annex I to the report of the Group of Governmental Experts[4] and to collect the responses from Member States and provide a summary thereof in advance of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly;

(d) To continue consultations with relevant international bodies, with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the present instrument in order to encourage wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system;

(e) To encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarities among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;

(f) To continue to foster further cooperation with relevant regional organizations, with a view to raising awareness of the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures and its role as a confidence-building measure;

(g) To encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

(h) To promote international and regional or subregional symposiums and training seminars and to support the development of an online training course by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, with the financial and technical support of interested States, with a view to explaining the purpose of the

[5] A/58/202 and A/58/202/Add.1, A/58/202/Add.2 and A/58/202/Add.3, A/59/192 and A/59/192/Add.1, A/60/159 and A/60/159/Add.1, A/60/159/Add.2 and A/60/159/Add.3, A/61/133 and A/61/133/Add.1, A/61/133/Add.2 and A/61/133/Add.3, A/62/158 and A/62/158/Add.1, A/62/158/Add.2 and A/62/158/Add.3, A/63/97 and A/63/97Add.1 and A/63/97/Add.2, A/64/113 and A/64/113/Add.1 and A/64/113/Add.2, A/65/118 and A/65/118/Corr.1 and A/65/118/Add.1 and A/65/118/Add.2, A/66/117 and A/66/117/Add.1, A/67/128 and A/67/128/Add.1, A/68/131 and A/68/131/Add.1, A/69/135 and A/69/135/Add.1, A/70/139 and A/70/139/Add.1 and A/71/115 and A/71/115/Add.1.

standardized reporting system, facilitating the electronic filing of reports and providing relevant technical instructions;

(i) To report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars;

(j) To provide, upon request, technical assistance to Member States lacking the capacity to report data and to encourage Member States to voluntarily provide bilateral assistance to other Member States;

9. *Encourages* Member States:

(a) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(b) To continue to provide the Secretary-General with their views and suggestions on ways and means to improve the future functioning of and broadened participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure, as well as recommendations to facilitate its further development;

(c) To complete the questionnaire contained in annex I to the report of the Group of Governmental Experts and to return it to the Secretary-General within the deadline to be set by him;

10. *Recommends* that the matter of the establishment of a process of periodic reviews of the Report on Military Expenditures and the timing of the next review be considered at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, taking into account the results of the questionnaire referred to in paragraphs 8 (c) and 9 (c) above;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", the sub-item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

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Agenda item 91

Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 70/22 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean (A/72/29).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.29

5. On 11 October, the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace" (A/C.1/72/L.29).

6. At its 27th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.29 by a recorded vote of 126 to 3, with 45 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:[2]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia,

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

[2] Subsequently, the delegation of Benin informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 54/47 of 1 December 1999, 56/16 of 29 November 2001, 58/29 of 8 December 2003, 60/48 of 8 December 2005, 62/14 of 5 December 2007, 64/23 of 2 December 2009, 66/22 of 2 December 2011, 68/24 of 5 December 2013 and 70/22 of 7 December 2015 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, held in New York from 2 to 13 July 1979,[1]

Recalling further paragraph 102 of the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[2] in which it was noted, inter alia, that the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean would continue his informal consultations on the future work of the Committee,

Emphasizing the need to foster consensual approaches that are conducive to the pursuit of such endeavours,

Noting the initiatives taken by countries of the region to promote cooperation, in particular economic cooperation, in the Indian Ocean area and the possible contribution of such initiatives to overall objectives of a zone of peace,

Convinced that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would assist the progress of a mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Considering that greater efforts and more time are required to develop a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;[3]

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would greatly facilitate the development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and A/34/45/Corr.1).

[2] A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/72/29).

3. *Requests* the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to continue his informal consultations with the members of the Committee and to report through the Committee to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render, within existing resources, all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

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Agenda item 92

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 71/26 of 5 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.37

5. On 12 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Portugal, submitted a draft resolution entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty" (A/C.1/72/L.37). Subsequently, Georgia, Haiti and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 24th meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.37 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity and of the African Union,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) in Cairo on 11 April 1996,[1]

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[2] in which it was emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[3] in which the Council affirmed that the signature of the Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[1] on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Recalls* the convening of the first Conference of States Parties to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), on 4 November 2010, the second Conference of States Parties, on 12 and 13 November 2012, and the third Conference of States Parties, on 29 and 30 May 2014, all held in Addis Ababa;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty[1] that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols that concern them to do so as soon as possible;

5. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all measures necessary to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[4] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (b) and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and encourages them to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards

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[1] A/50/426, annex.

[2] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

[3] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996* (S/INF/52).

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

agreements on the basis of the model protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

United Nations A/72/403

General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Agenda item 93

Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 69/27 of 2 December 2014.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

17-19810 (E) 131117

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/72/27).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.9

5. On 9 October, the representative of Belarus, on behalf of Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cuba, Ecuador, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/72/L.9). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Maldives, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 27th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.9 by a recorded vote of 173 to 3 (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:[2]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

[2] Subsequently, the delegations of Benin and Namibia informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Ukraine, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/37 of 10 December 1996, 54/44 of 1 December 1999, 57/50 of 22 November 2002, 60/46 of 8 December 2005, 63/36 of 2 December 2008, 66/21 of 2 December 2011 and 69/27 of 2 December 2014 relating to the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Recalling further paragraph 77 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1]

Determined to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction that have characteristics comparable in destructive effect to those of weapons of mass destruction identified in the definition of weapons of mass destruction adopted by the United Nations in 1948,[2]

Noting with appreciation the discussions which have been held in the Conference on Disarmament under the item entitled "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons",[3]

Noting the desirability of keeping the matter under review, as appropriate,

1. *Reaffirms* that effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, without prejudice to further overview of its agenda, to keep the matter under review, as appropriate, with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on identified types of such weapons;

3. *Calls upon* all States, immediately following any recommendations of the Conference on Disarmament, to give favourable consideration to those recommendations;

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] The definition was adopted by the Commission for Conventional Armaments (see S/C.3/32/Rev.1 and S/C.3/32/Rev.1/Corr.1).

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/65/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/66/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/67/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/68/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/69/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/70/27), chap. III, sect. E; ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/71/27), chap. III, sect. E; and ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/72/27), chap. III, sect. E.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report the results of any consideration of the matter in its annual reports to the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

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Agenda item 94

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 70/237 of 23 December 2015 and 71/28 of 5 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took

17-19811 (E) 141117

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action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (A/72/315) and the report of the Secretary-General on the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (A/72/327).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.1/72/L.44

5. On 12 October, the representative of the Russian Federation, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft decision entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" (A/C.1/72/L.44). Subsequently, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tunisia, Uzbekistan and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft decision.

6. At its 26th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.1/72/L.44 by a recorded vote of 173 to none, with 1 abstention (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand,

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see, A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Ukraine.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

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Seventy-second session
Agenda item 95

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 71/29 of 5 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

17-19812 (E) 151117

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (A/72/340 (Part I) and (Part II).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.1

5. On 29 September, the representative of Egypt submitted a draft resolution entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East" (A/C.1/72/L.1).

6. At its 24th meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.1 without a vote (see para. 7).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007, 63/38 of 2 December 2008, 64/26 of 2 December 2009, 65/42 of 8 December 2010, 66/25 of 2 December 2011, 67/28 of 3 December 2012, 68/27 of 5 December 2013, 69/29 of 2 December 2014, 70/24 of 7 December 2015 and 71/29 of 5 December 2016 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, in which all parties directly concerned are called upon to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 71/29,[2]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[3]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(61)/RES/14, adopted on 21 September 2017 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixty-first regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

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[2] A/72/340 (Part I).

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 71/29;[2]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[4] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

[4] A/45/435.

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Seventy-second session
Agenda item 96

Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, in accordance with Assembly resolution 71/30 of 5 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

17-19814 (E) 141117

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.10/Rev.1

5. On 24 October, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of Algeria, Chad, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, Ghana, Iraq, Libya, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), submitted a draft resolution entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (A/C.1/72/L.10/Rev.1). Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 24th meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Pakistan revised the first preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.10/Rev.1.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.10/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 118 to none, with 59 abstentions (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia,

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Noting that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[1] in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[2] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[3] and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,[4] as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[5]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it is stated, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[6] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[7] which was reiterated at the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007, 63/39 of 2 December 2008, 64/27 of 2 December 2009, 65/43 of 8 December 2010, 66/26 of 2 December 2011, 67/29 of 3 December 2012, 68/28 of 5 December 2013, 69/30 of 2 December 2014, 70/25 of 7 December 2015 and 71/30 of 5 December 2016,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure

[4] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.
[5] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.
[6] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), sect. III.E.
[7] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

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Prevention of an arms race in outer space

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Prevention of an arms race in outer space:

"(a) Prevention of an arms race in outer space;

"(b) No first placement of weapons in outer space"

was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 71/31 and 71/32 of 5 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b), 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18, on 20 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action

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on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/72/27).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.3

5. On 12 October, the representatives of Sri Lanka and Egypt, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Belarus, China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Thailand, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/72/L.3). Subsequently, Armenia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Ghana, Honduras, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 25th meeting on 30 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.3 by a recorded vote of 175 to none, with 2 abstentions (see para. 12, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:[2]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname,

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

[2] Subsequently, the delegation of Ghana informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Israel, United States of America.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.53

7. On 12 October, the representative of the Russian Federation, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft resolution entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space" (A/C.1/72/L.53). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, Eritrea, Honduras, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At its 25th meeting on 30 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.53 by a recorded vote of 122 to 4, with 48 abstentions (see para. 12, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

[3] Subsequently, the delegation of Ghana informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Against:

Georgia, Israel, Ukraine, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.54

9. On 23 October, the representatives of China and the Russian Federation, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Belarus, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malawi, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/72/L.54). Subsequently, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Namibia, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At the 25th meeting on 30 October, the Secretary informed the Committee that a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.54 had been issued as document A/C.1/72/L.60.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.54 by a recorded vote of 121 to 5, with 45 abstentions (see para. 12, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:[4]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United

[4] Subsequently, the delegation of Ghana informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

France, Israel, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey.

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[1]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] in which it is stated that, in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, the most recent of which is resolution 71/31 of 5 December 2016, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[3]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017,

Noting the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects in 2008 and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[4]

Taking note of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[1]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), para. 76.

[4] See CD/1839 and CD/1985.

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" as early as possible during its 2018 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

Draft resolution II
No first placement of weapons in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space and of outer space turning into an arena for military confrontation, and bearing in mind the importance of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[1]

Conscious that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Reaffirming that practical measures should be examined and taken in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space in a common effort towards a community of shared future for humankind,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with the existing legal regime providing for the peaceful use of outer space,

Reaffirming its recognition that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee prevention of an arms race in outer space and that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime,

Welcoming, in this regard, the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[2] and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[3]

Considering that transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities are an integral part of the draft treaty referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 69/32 of 2 December 2014, 70/27 of 7 December 2015 and 71/32 of 5 December 2016, and its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, confirm the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Noting the importance of the political statements made by a number of States[4] that they would not be the first to place weapons in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of the objective to prevent an arms race in outer space and the willingness of States to contribute to reaching this common goal;

2. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating forum on this subject,[5] has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement, or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[2] See CD/1839.

[3] See CD/1985.

[4] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[5] See resolution S-10/2.

3. *Urges* an early commencement of substantive work based on the updated draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[3] introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[2] under the agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space";

4. *Stresses* that, while such an agreement is not yet concluded, other measures may contribute to ensuring that weapons are not placed in outer space;

5. *Encourages* all States, especially space-faring nations, to consider the possibility of upholding, as appropriate, a political commitment not to be the first to place weapons in outer space;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space".

Draft resolution III
Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 71/31 and 71/32 of 5 December 2016 and 71/90 of 6 December 2016, as well as its other resolutions on this subject,

Encouraging all States to contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, especially the placement of weapons in outer space, as well as the use of force against space objects, with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, with the objective of shaping a community of shared future for mankind,

Recognizing that the prevention of an arms race, especially of the placement of weapons in outer space, would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Reaffirming that practical measures should be examined and taken in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space,

Recognizing the primary role and responsibility of the Conference on Disarmament in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements on the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Expresses its deep regret* over the years of stalemate in the work of the Conference on Disarmament, and looks forward to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on and implement at its earliest opportunity a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations Group of Governmental Experts, with a membership of up to 25 Member States, chosen on the basis of fair and equitable geographical representation, to consider and make recommendations on substantial elements of an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space;

4. *Decides* that the newly established Group of Governmental Experts will operate by consensus, without prejudice to national positions in future negotiations, and hold two 2-week sessions in Geneva, one in 2018 and the other in 2019;

5. *Requests* the Chair of the Group of Governmental Experts to organize, in New York, a two-day open-ended intersessional informal consultative meeting, in 2019, so that all Member States can engage in interactive discussions and share their views on the basis of a report on the work of the Group to be provided by the Chair in his own capacity;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session and to the Conference on Disarmament prior to its 2020 session;

7. *Decides* that, if the Conference on Disarmament agrees upon and implements a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the negotiation of an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms

race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space, the newly established Group of Governmental Experts will conclude its work and submit the results thereof to the Secretary-General for onward transmission to the Conference on Disarmament;

8. *Also* decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session an item entitled "Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space".

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Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin **Ngundze** (South Africa)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly decision 71/514 of 5 December 2016.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2017, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 52 (b) and 90 to 106. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 2 to 6 and on 9 and 10 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and the presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 14 meetings (10th to 23rd), from 11 to 13, from 16 to 18 and from 23 to 26 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 24th to 28th meetings, on 27, 30 and 31 October and on 1 and 2 November.[1]

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/72/PV.2, A/C.1/72/PV.3, A/C.1/72/PV.4, A/C.1/72/PV.5, A/C.1/72/PV.6, A/C.1/72/PV.7, A/C.1/72/PV.8, A/C.1/72/PV.9, A/C.1/72/PV.10, A/C.1/72/PV.11, A/C.1/72/PV.12, A/C.1/72/PV.13, A/C.1/72/PV.14, A/C.1/72/PV.15, A/C.1/72/PV.16, A/C.1/72/PV.17, A/C.1/72/PV.18, A/C.1/72/PV.19, A/C.1/72/PV.20, A/C.1/72/PV.21, A/C.1/72/PV.22, A/C.1/72/PV.23, A/C.1/72/PV.24, A/C.1/72/PV.25, A/C.1/72/PV.26, A/C.1/72/PV.27 and A/C.1/72/PV.28.

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4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.52/Rev.1

5. On 26 October, the representative of India, on behalf of Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, India, Mauritius and Sierra Leone, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament" (A/C.1/72/L.52/Rev.1). Subsequently, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Italy, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 26th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.52/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Underlining the keen interest of the international community to keep abreast of the latest developments in science and technology of relevance to international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Mindful of the need to regulate the transfer of technologies for peaceful uses, in accordance with relevant international obligations, to address the risk of proliferation by States or non-State actors,

Acknowledging the need to continue the exchange of technologies for peaceful uses, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Cognizant of the discussions on developments in science and technology at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and under the standing agenda item on science and technology of the intersessional programme established by the Seventh Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,

Mindful of the discussions in other forums, such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in the United Nations disarmament machinery,

Noting the discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies under the framework of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[1]

Noting also the discussions within the United Nations and the specialized agencies on developments in the field of information and communications technologies, including in the context of international security,

Acknowledging that the accelerating pace of technological change necessitates a system-wide assessment of the potential impact of developments in science and technology on international security and disarmament, with due regard to avoiding duplication and complementing efforts already under way in United Nations entities and in the framework of the relevant international conventions,

1. *Invites* Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament-related purposes, including the verification

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation instruments, and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts, with an annex containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".